

REMARKS

Claims 15 through 24 are pending in this application. The specification and claims 15 and 17 have been amended at the courteous suggestion of the Examiner, and claims 15 through 17 also amended to correct a typographical error. Non-elected claims 25 and 26 have been cancelled. Applicants submit that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue.

Claim suggestions

The Examiner identified perceived informalities in claims in claims 15 and 17 and courteously suggested remedial language. By the present Amendment, the changes suggested by the Examiner have been implemented. The Examiner's perspicacity is appreciated.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the disclosure identifying perceived informalities. By the present Amendment, the perceived informalities have been addressed consistent with the Examiner's courteous suggestions. Again, the Examiner's perspicacity is appreciated.


Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15 through 24 have been allowed. Claims 15 through 24 are the only pending claims. Accordingly this application is in clear condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur J. Steiner', is written over the printed name.

Arthur J. Steiner
Registration No. 26,106

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
(202) 756-8000 AJS/lrd
Facsimile: (202) 756-8087
Date: October 7, 2003